



Please join us for the
Saint Nicholas
2016 Annual Dinner

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1
SAINT PAUL RIVERCENTRE

RECEPTION 5:30 P.M.
DINNER & PROGRAM 7 P.M.



VOICE

Published by Catholic Charities of St. Paul and Minneapolis
1200 Second Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55403

Phone: 612-204-8500
To donate: 612-204-8374
To volunteer: 612-204-8435
cctwincities.org

Tim Marx
President & Chief Executive Officer
Kathleen M. Cooney
Chair, Board of Directors



Changing seasons bring new opportunities



No one at Catholic Charities is ready to give up summer yet, but with the Rio Olympics in the rear view mirror and school buses rumbling about, I can't help but reflect on the potential for "gold" all around us.

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Speaking of new beginnings, we are also delighted to be expanding our School Based Counseling work into DeLaSalle High School. Go Islanders! May you and all students win a gold medal this year!

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Senior Vice President of Client Services and Community Partnerships

CATHOLIC CHARITIES VOICE

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2016

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Inside this issue:

- Cooking up success
- Family Service Center provides hope
- Higher Ground Saint Paul makes marked progress



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The outcome? Children who are more ready to learn and build strong educational foundations for future success!

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Navy vet, college student, future police officer

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Brice is doing everything right.

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A recent graduate of Minneapolis Community and Technical College, Brice

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"I've wanted to be a cop ever since I was in high school. Going to be a police officer with the nation on edge, that's tough. But, if I can deal with being in a homeless shelter I can deal with being a police officer. I don't want to get up in the morning doing the same thing day in and day out. I don't want to lose touch with reality."

"I know I'm going to be a good cop. I try to be objective. I don't like to take sides on anything. Before I judge someone, I try to get to know them first." —Brice

Cooking up success

Hard work, opportunity are recipe for self-sufficiency



If you talk to Darryl these days, he's likely smiling.

After all, he did just graduate from the Culinary Skills Training Class at Catholic Charities' Opportunity Center. The program opened doors to stability, independence and, he hopes, a job to get him off the floor at Dorothy Day Center.

"This class, it's an accomplishment," he said. "It sets the stage for taking off in the right direction. I have a lot to be thankful for."

A right direction, indeed.

and fine-tuned working with Chef Mary at Opportunity Center. While he said breakfast is his favorite, he said food isn't about the product, but the joy it brings.

"If I cook something and you enjoy it, that's the satisfaction I get out of it," he said.

Crossing the river from St. Paul to attend the class every day in Minneapolis wasn't easy for Darryl, but he said it was worth it. He earned a diploma for completing the class and also earned a ServSafe certificate for food handling.

Darryl is looking forward to leaving Dorothy Day Center and moving into a place of his own.

"It's going to take time; I'll just save my paychecks. If I'm able to get up and go to work, then I can get a normal residence," he said. "It feels good to carry a feather, rather than a burden."

Darryl said he is so thankful Catholic Charities was there when he needed help.

"Catholic Charities helped me, housed me, fed me, gave me opportunities to help myself. It's been a real resource," he said. "Being homeless, it can happen to anyone, but you can prevail if you have some help."

When the class ended, Darryl completed his two-week internship at a popular St. Paul restaurant. Thanks to access to the computer lab at Opportunity Center, Darryl was able to secure a full-time job at a popular new West. St. Paul restaurant. He'll be making hamburgers and training for an assistant manager position there.

Cooking is part of Darryl's soul, a skill he first learned in his grandmother's kitchen

Off the streets, in the kitchen

Culinary Skills Training program provides tools for success

As you read this, the eighteenth Culinary Skills Training Program is taking place at Catholic Charities' Opportunity Center in Minneapolis.

Like Darryl, students are learning the culinary and interpersonal skills they need to succeed in the food service industry. They learn the fundamentals in the classroom and move into the kitchen for hands-on learning.



They're not only learning about cooking basics and proper food handling, they're learning job skills with workplace readiness classes and empowerment workshops. The class is capped off with a two-week unpaid internship at a local eatery.

The Culinary Skills Training Program has been going strong in Minneapolis since 2011. With your help, we will bring opportunities like this to St. Paul as we realize the new vision for the Dorothy Day Center. We can't do it without your support!

A community of hope and support

When Edna is asked to describe Catholic Charities' Family Service Center, she says it's a place where you always have someone to talk to and you're never alone.

"Since I got here, I have support," she said.

Edna and her 1, 7 and 10-year-old daughters have been staying in a room at Family Service Center. With a strong work history and good skills, Edna said she is confident she can find a job—but her first priority is to find a place for them all to live and someone to take care of her girls when she goes to work.

"My goals are to keep stable housing and daycare so my kids' lives will never be disrupted again," she said.

With your support, Family Service Center is able to give Edna, and others staying there, the tools they need to regain housing and independence while offering support and fulfilling immediate needs.

"Family Service Center has helped me a lot," Edna said. "They provide food, room and board. If you have a question about something, the staff here helps in any way they can. The volunteers are so helpful, knocking on our doors with activities for the kids and the staff is my support system."

It's obvious talking to Edna, her girls are her priority in life.

"Xzaveyona, my 10-year-old, all she does all day is read and put her face in a book. Blyssins goes with the flow and likes to make new friends. Jeryhia, she's standoffish until she's very comfortable. She's smart too, she dances and she sings. They all like to be outside," Edna said.

"I hope to get them into a stable environment so they can get back to exploring, arts and crafts and get back to having a life again."

While her girls are still young, Edna is already thinking about when they can go to college—she hopes she's financially able to help pay for it.

Until then, she's teaching the girls everything she knows and imagining the adventures they will enjoy in life.



Higher Ground Saint Paul under construction



Last August, many of our clients sat on the curb and watched as we tore down the old labor building at 411 Main Street in downtown St. Paul to make way for Higher Ground Saint Paul, Phase I of the new vision for Dorothy Day Center.

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Providing dignified, separate shelter spaces for men and women and additional

permanent housing for those most vulnerable in our community, this new vision is already providing hope to the hundreds of men and women who have no place else to turn.

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Please stay tuned for information! With your support and your voice, we are creating true pathways out of poverty for those in need.

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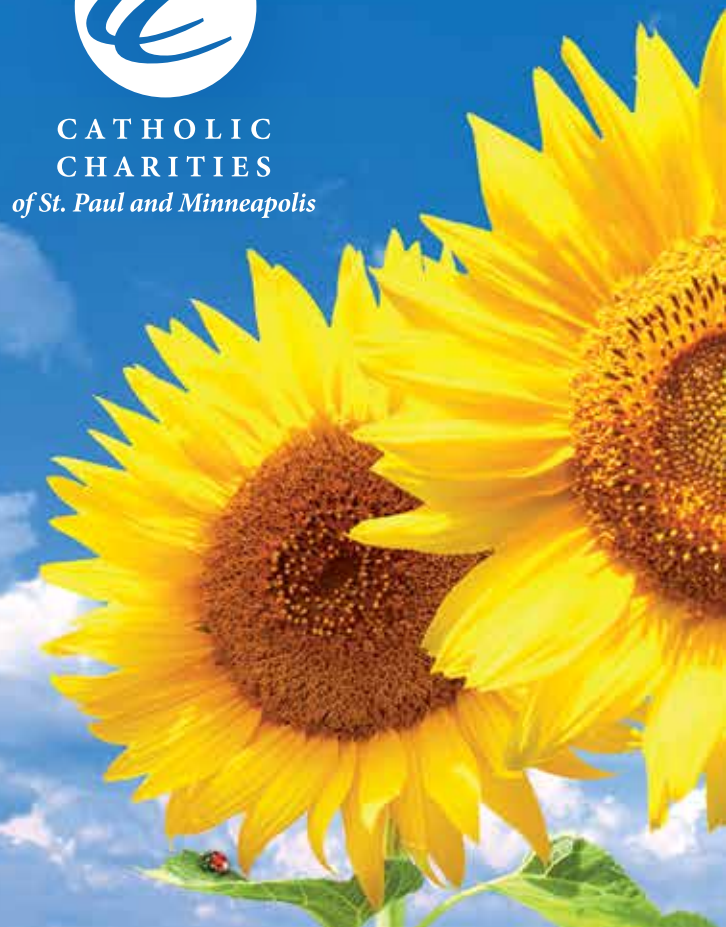
Planned gifts can be made in cash, real estate, stocks, bonds, personal property or life insurance and some can even provide an income for you and your loved ones while also supporting Catholic Charities.

No matter how you make your gift, you'll be leaving your mark and making an immeasurable impact on our community for years to come.

For more information please contact Stacy McVary at 612-204-8371 or stacy.mcvary@cctwincities.org



CATHOLIC CHARITIES of St. Paul and Minneapolis



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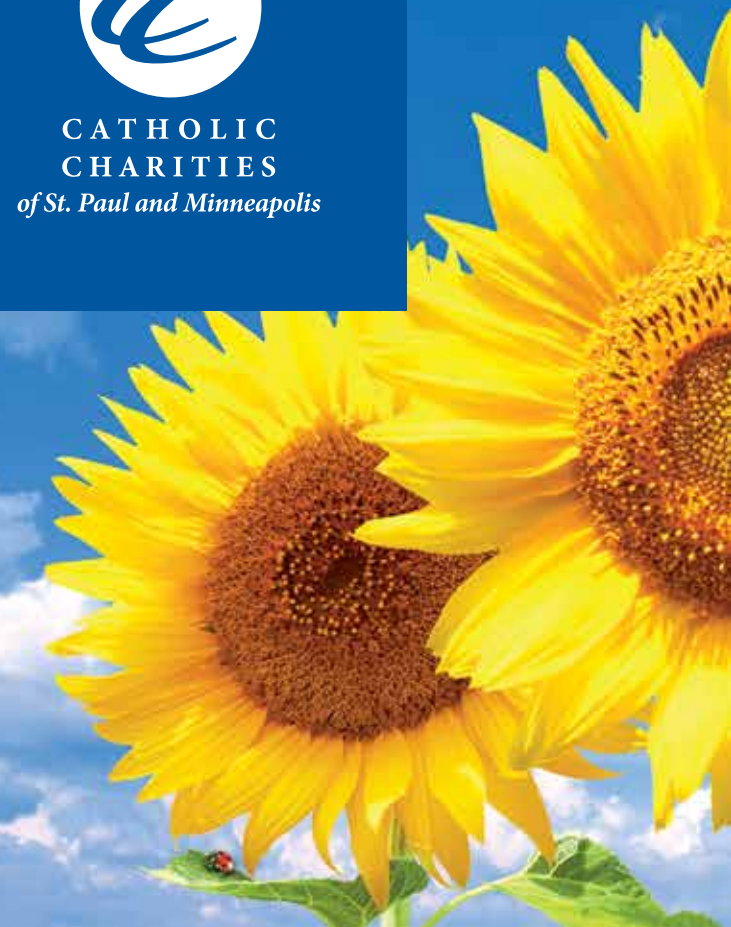
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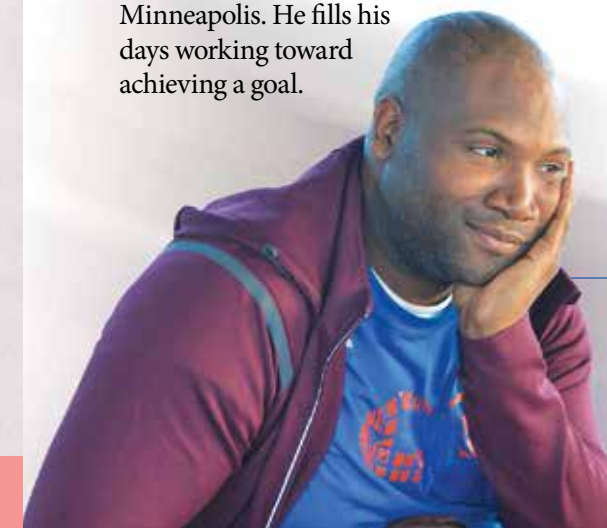
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